

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 16, 17, 19, 20, 23-40, 49, 50, 53-55 and 60, rejected claims 11-15, 18, 21, 22, 41-48, 51, 52 and 56-58 and objected to claim 59. In rejecting the claims, the Examiner took the position the term "window" as used in the claims was equivalent to an opening or an open section, slot, bore or other aperture in a wall structure. While the Examiner's position may have some validity based on a dictionary definition of "window," it is inconsistent with the definition of "window" used in the specification. As noted in the specification, a window is not merely an opening, but a solid optical element, e.g. "Windows 48, 50 are made of a suitable material, such as fused silica, although other materials, such as optical glasses, could also be used." In view of the recent Federal Circuit Phillips decision, the Examiner should first look to the definition of the term in the specification, not a general dictionary definition when interpreting the claims.

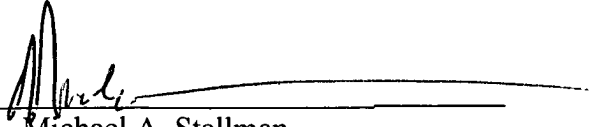
Despite this perceived error in claim interpretation, applicants have cancelled the rejected claims in order to expedite prosecution of this case. It is believed that the rejected claims define patentable subject matter and will be presented in a continuation case. Applicants have amended claim 33 to correct a typographical error noted by the Examiner. Claim 59 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 57 and 58 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 59.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, an early action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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